

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Amended) A method of playing a board game, comprising the steps of:

- a. using a playing surface, wherein said surface is comprised of sections X and Y; each said section is comprised of a plurality of defined spaces, each said space contains an integer; said defined spaces of said section Y are arranged in a grid of rows and columns, said defined spaces of said section X border said grid of said section Y;
- b. each player is assigned a distinguishable set of playing pieces;
- c. positioning a plurality of playing pieces from each player's said set of playing pieces on predetermined spaces within said section Y and positioning a plurality of pieces from each player's said set of playing pieces on predetermined spaces within said section X;
- d. allowing each player, on a turnabout basis, to position one or more pieces on integers in said section X, to create the difference between two integers, integer A and integer B in said section Y, whereby a piece or pieces in said section Y can be moved from the space containing said integer A to the space containing said integer B;
- e. allowing a player to win the game if said player is the first to position each said piece, played within section Y, on integers that when added together equal zero.

10. (Amended) The method of play as recited in claim 9 wherein:

- a. said section Y is comprised of a square grid of 7 rows and 7 columns of 49 defined square spaces, each said square space contains an integer; said square spaces comprising section Y contain the integers 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 40, 29, 29, 21, 21, 20, 16, 16, 14, 14, 11, 11, 8, 9, 9, 7, 7, 6, 6, 5, 5, -40, -29, -29, -21, -21, -20, -16, -16, -14, -14, -11, -11, -8, -9, -9, -7, -7, -6, -6, -5, -5; said section Y is bordered by said section X; said section X is comprised of 32 defined square spaces, each said square space contains an integer; said square spaces comprising section X contain the integers 0, 0 1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 5, 5, 8, 8, 13, 13, 21, 21; said integers contained in said square spaces of said section X can be used as both positive or negative;
- b. each player's distinguishable set of playing pieces is comprised of three pieces distinguished as circles, two pieces distinguished as squares, two pieces distinguished as triangles, one piece distinguished as a diamond, and two pieces distinguished as arrows;
- c. the preferred starting position of each player's said set of distinguishable playing pieces is 14, 14, and 20 in said section Y for player one's pieces distinguished as circles, 21 and 21 in said section Y for player one's pieces distinguished as squares, 29 and 29 in said section Y for player one's pieces distinguished as triangles, 40 in said section Y for player one's piece distinguished as a diamond, -14, -14, and -20 in said section Y for player two's pieces distinguished as circles, -21 and -21 in said section Y for player two's pieces distinguished as squares, -29 and -29 in said section Y for player two's pieces distinguished as triangles, -40 in said section Y for player two's piece distinguished as a diamond, both player's pieces distinguished as arrows have their starting positions on the spaces containing the integers 0 and 0 in said section X;

- d. each said piece distinguished as a circle and each said piece distinguished as a square may only move horizontally and vertically along the axis of defined square spaces in said section Y, each said piece distinguished as triangle and each said piece distinguished as a diamond may move horizontally, vertically, and diagonally along the axis of defined square spaces in said section Y; said pieces distinguished as squares and diamonds may move over a piece or pieces blocking their path to the next unoccupied space, pieces distinguished as arrows may move freely to any desired space within said section X;
- e. allowing a player to win the game if said player is the first to position each said piece distinguished as a circle on integers, in said section Y, that when added together equal zero; to position each said piece distinguished as a square on integers, in said section Y, that when added together equal zero; to position each said piece distinguished as a triangle on integers, in said section Y, that when added together equal zero; and to position said diamond piece on a space containing the integer 0.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)